

We... are destined to tell the truth  
and we are diffusing it!



**C**reative dialogues  
From the Hellenic Book Club

## Write down your own story.

For you, who prefer that the truth be told, for you, who don't hum and haw, you, who are not like and so-called...

For you, who refuse to give in the game of flattery, you, who don't believe in the culture of lies...

For you, who have a restless spirit, you, who fight for our lost courage to come back...

For you, who see life with love and a critical realism, you, who don't let life live you but who live it yourself, there is a way you can express yourself.

Write down your own story. Your personal written evidence.

Straightforwardly, outright, without hints.

Collaborate with the Hellenic Book Club on the program of the creative dialogues. Participate in the spreading of the sincerity, of the truth, of the right; in the fostering of transparency and of trust. Respect the others and remind to them the truth and the responsibility, which belong to them and which are being neglected or maltreated by them.

## A godsend



The possibility of dialogue is for some people a present from God. For, only dialogue makes way for the truth and leads to our souls; it fights the don't-care attitude, the convenience and the chase of expedience. Of course, with the condition that we are the children of the truth and that we don't leave this truth on the shelf.

The creative dialogues are a very real program, which is organised by the Hellenic Book Club. They are written dialogues with the reality, dialogues which give the possibility to common people, to the members of the HBC, as well as to cultural organisations to express themselves freely on simple questions, everyday ones, of common interest, questions of communication, of relations, national or of the state.

We gave these dialogues that name, because they are trying to agitate the water, to give birth to creative worries, to make one think in a positive way, to make ways for communication and truth regarding the new culture and, why not, to bite like the... horseflies of Socrates.

## The “horseflies” of Socrates are biting the today.

The creative dialogues come from Socrates, who is the father of dialectics. The great practical philosopher, not only had he discovered the value of the dialogue, had he diffused and fostered it, but he was also not missing a single chance to taunt, like the horseflies, his fellow citizens for their behaviour or their actions -that were socially, ethically and logically- unacceptable or harmful. It is said, in particular, that this was one of the obscure reasons for his condemnation.

*A fake world cannot but only be saved by the truth.* **Socrates**

In our days and especially in Greece where such behaviour is on the agenda, the bite of the... horsefly of the creative dialogues can rather hurt like the truth, but it liberates at the same time! With the sense of responsibility, personal as well as social, and with the method of critical realism, they aim at a reasonable dialogue which is opposed to the falling currents of our times and, in a democratic way, it puts the breaks on every flattery, every mediocrity, on hypocrisy, on insolence, on cowardice, on expediencies.

*Only a system of honesty can govern the Civilization.* **Tsirintanis**

The profile of the creative dialogues.

### The truth by... the word

- The creative dialogues have a dialectical and interrogative form and a dynamic interaction. They are of mutual influence.
- They make dialogue not war, with the slogan “truth, freedom, justice”.

*Our times are hard. They allow from now on neither false slogans to be diffused, nor true ones to remain inapplicable.* **Tsirintanis**

- Their truth is realistic, attached to persons, ideas and events.
- 
- They show up behaviours, which are not due to an accidental mistake, but rather to frivolousness, to deprecation, to indifference and irresponsibility, to a chase of expedience, to egocentrism and jealousy. Mentalities, which can be contagious and therefore dangerous.
- They are trying to be objective and down-to-earth, sober and fruitful.
- They speak out with clarity and sincerity.
- They do not avoid what is difficult, for so-called reasons of caution, but it is with sense that they fight for the truth.
- They animate the sense of social responsibility.
- They prevent from the so-called ones, the hypocritical innocence and the safe generality.
- They inspire a democratic dialogue, not an egocentric monologue.
- They discourage the modern insolence.
- First of all, they are written after understanding and collaboration.

- They are communicated above all to the person or to the organisation to which they are addressed. They taunt, they bring down-to-earth, they awaken the conscience and activate the responsibility of this person or organisation.
- They are a form of a strong love, for *love brings off its most authentic form when it takes risks, not when it accommodates.*

 *To tell the truth -especially when this involves a certain risk- it is an act of love, which reduces the darkness and the confusion and increases the light that our world needs so desperately.* **Scott Peck**

## The public of the creative dialogues is not an ordinary one!

There is no doubt that the Ancient Greeks were the most important public of the creative dialogues, because in the childhood of the humanity, it was easy for them to think with sincerity and to speak freely. That's why their civilization would overstep all the others and radiate through the centuries, inspiring also at an international level the modern creations.

In our days, the creative dialogues of the Hellenic Book Club are addressed to a public, which is certainly not ordinary. It is not a common one. It is those people who dare to think freely. Common people, often direct, reliable, uncompromising and straightforward. People who have seen, suffered and learnt from it. It's not necessarily about celebrities, specialists, intellectuals, scientists or prominent ones.

*Common man, with his pure eyes, sees much more clearly the reality than the scientist who wears the glasses of his specialisation.*

*The Fear of Freedom* by Erich Fromm dissects this phenomenon in the modern world, which is full of universities. **P. Kanellopoulos**

*Everyday life, with spontaneity and emotions, with passions, including human, it is this one which writes the true "secret story of the humanity.* **V. Zeldine**

It's here where the Creative Dialogues are taking their place.

## The history of the creative dialogues.

Regarding their prehistory, the creative dialogues started at the Greek National Company of Telecommunications (OTE) by Mr. Panagiotis Rozakis, Electrical and Mechanical Engineer, graduated from the National School of Engineering and Architecture, specialised in the Scientific Organisation and future President of the Hellenic Book Club. The subjects of these dialogues were naturally those of service. Without any formality or flattery. Written freely, with question marks, exclamation marks and dots, that is with feeling, frankness and a certain dose of irony, they would make a lot feel somehow embarrassed... The secretaries, the heads of section, the directors and the persons of the administration!



Surely, a swallow does not make a summer! But if the first does not come, will the second one do so?

The HBC has already in its history, lots of Creative Dialogues with celebrities or not, with notification to those persons and with publications in the press or on the Internet. Above, a taste, with some subjects and their recipients:

[Accusations without precedent](#) - Kaiti, one of our members, 5.3.90, “Book and Life”, 2<sup>nd</sup> issue, p.24

[Conferences with a soul](#) - A. Exarchos- OMEPO, “Book and Life”, 2<sup>nd</sup> issue, p.26

[Can religion save us?](#) - Christos- member of the HBC, 15.11.86, “Book and Life”, 2<sup>nd</sup> issue, p.23

[Truth and journalists](#) - I. Marinos, “The Economist”, 30.12.93

[Do Greeks read good books?](#) - S. Kargakos, “The Economist”, 24.2.94

[The book -Desert and Oasis](#) - S. Kargakos, “The Economist”, 24.6.94

[The responsibility of the mass media and our lost National Education](#) - Symposium of the periodic press, “Kathimerini”, 17.6.94

[The National Strategy for Books](#) - Ministry of Culture, “The Economist”, 5.10.95

[Is really disastrous, the reform by Papanoutsos?](#) - Dialogue for the National Education-

The Ecomonist”, 27.6.96

[Reality and labels!](#) - I. Totomis, member of the HBC, 2.6.98

[Political Discourse and Action](#) - Archbishop and Giannaras- “Book and Life”, 4<sup>th</sup> issue, p.33

[Optimistic, Pessimistic or... Realistic?](#) - Kari Heistad, Meropi Spyropoulos, Sarantos Kargakos and... we, all of us- “Book and Life”, 5<sup>th</sup> issue, p.31

[Reliability](#) - Literature teacher P. Athanasiadis, “Book and Life”, 7<sup>th</sup> issue, p.3

[Down to Earth](#) - Professor of Sociology at Main University, K. Markidis, “Book and Life”, 10<sup>th</sup> issue, p.34

[See through... with restrictions!](#) -Laws and Justice- Transparency and Greece, C. Bakouris, 6.12.09

[Religious classes and the question of sex in the syllabus of schools](#) - World of the Greek Woman, 5<sup>th</sup> issue, 2010

## After all... we are only making dialogue!



If you are marked by reason, reliability, respect for the opinion of the others, good faith, honesty, alert on the touch of the reality, moderation as well as courage, take a pencil and a piece of paper and speak out! If you are not marked by these traits, but you would like to foster them, then do again the same thing!

 ***One needs courage to live. As much the seed, which remains intact as this one, which breaks its envelope, they both have the same qualities. But only this one, which will break its envelope, will become capable of entering the adventure of life. Gibran***

The road to “Ithaca” enriches life, it gives it a sense and a hope!  
Ithaca for the Creative Dialogues is the homeland of Truth, of Liberty, of Justice. of  
Dignity.

It’s worth an Odyssey for it.

Write down your own Odyssey marked by your personality. You can begin right  
now. For, the irreverent pretenders to the throne have become many around us.

And they have grown insolent...

## Liberty needs virtue and bravery

Andreas Kalvos

